

Message Text

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TAGS: PERP, US, XY, NG
SUBJECT: COUNTRY DATA SHEET - NIGER

REF: STATE 078166

1. COUNTRY: NIGER

A. ECONOMIC PROFILE

POPULATION: 6 MILLION (MARCH 1978)
GROWTH RATE: 2.8 PERCENT PER ANNUM
BIRTH RATE: 50-55 PER 1000 POPULATION

INCOME: PER CAPITA \$102 (1976 IN 1972 DOLLARS)
GROWTH RATE (PER CAPITA) APPROX 3 PERCENT (1974-77)
GNP GROWTH RATE, 1970-75 - 3 PERCENT
SEVERE DROUGHT OF 1972-74 DEALT SERIOUS BLOW TO NIGER'S
AGRICULTURALLY-BASED ECONOMY. PRESENT RECOVERY PROGRESS
A RESULT OF 1) EXPANSION OF NIGER'S URANIUM MINING SECTOR;
2) GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO PUMP NEW LIDU INTO SAGGING AGRI-TSCULTURAL S
ECTOR; 3) RESUMPTION OF ADEQUATE RAINFALL IN MOST
PARTS OF NIGER.

TRADE: MAJOR EXPORTS: URANIUM, CATTLE, HIDES,
MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS: FRANCE, NIGERIA
EXPORTS TO U.S.: NEGLIGIBLE
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IMPORTS FROM U.S. 1976-7.8 MILLION INCLUDING
CEREALS (\$2.2 MILLION), DRILLING EQUIPMENT (\$2.2 MILLION)
AIRCRAFT PARTS (\$2.1 MILLION).

LITERACY RATE: 7 PERCENT (FRENCH LANGUAGE)
LIFE EXPECTANCY: MALES 38.5 YEARS; FEMALES 41.6 YEARS.
PEOPLE PER DOCTOR: APPROXIMATELY 51,000 PEOPLE PER PHYSICIAN.

NUTRITION: ESTIMATE OF CALORIE INTAKE AS PERCENT OF DAILY REQUIREMENT NOT AVAILABLE.

B. POLITICAL SITUATION

FORM OF GOVERNMENT: MILITARY RULE

PARTICULAR PROBLEMS: NONE

C. HUMAN RIGHTS CONDITIONS

NIGER'S CONSTITUTION WAS SUSPENDED IN APRIL, 1974 WHEN THE MILITARY SEIZED CONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT. THE SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL'S EMPHASIS ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WITH FOOD SELF-SUFFICIENCY UNDERLINES THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DIMENSIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

2. U.S. INTERESTS AND POLICIES

A. POLITICAL: DEVELOPMENTAL COOPERATION THROUGH BOTH BILATERAL (USAID) AND MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE.

B. SECURITY: NONE

C. ECONOMIC: AMERICAN COMMERCIAL INTERESTS ARE LARGELY LIMITED TO NIGER'S SMALL BUT RAPIDLY EXPANDING MINERAL SECTOR. THE MAJORITY OF U.S. INVESTMENT IN NIGER HAS BEEN IN PETROLEUM AND URANIUM EXPLORATION. WHILE EXPORTS TO THE U.S. ARE NEGLIGIBLE, SALE OF U.S. PRODUCTS HERE TOTALLED SOME \$7.8 MILLION IN 1976 INCLUDING AIRCRAFT PARTS, CERALS AND DRILLING EQUIPMENT.

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MILLION IN 1976 INCLUDING AIRCRAFT PARTS, CERALS AND DRILLING EQUIPMENT.

3. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

U.S. DEVELOPMENTAL ASSISTANCE (THOUSANDS)

FY 1977 4979

FY 1978 10851

FY 1979 12231

PL-480: FY 77 - NIL

FY 78 - 5000 TONS

FY 79 - NOT DETERMINED

OTHER DONORS: FRANCE, WEST GERMANY, SAUDI ARABIA, EUROPEAN COMMUNITY: CANADA, ALGERIA, LIBYA, BELGIUM, PEOPLES' REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

4. OBJECTIVES OF U.S. ASSISTANCE.

A. DEVELOPMENT AID - TOTAL U.S. ASSISTANCE 1967-77

APPROXIMATELY \$73 MILLION.

SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS: 1) NIAMEY BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION-PROJECT, 2) NIGER CEREALS PROJECT, 3) EMERGENCY FOOD DISTRIBUTION

PROJECT DURING DROUGHT.

FUTURE OBJECTIVES: 1) TO ASSIST NIGER ATTAIN ITS GOAL OF FOOD SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND 2) IMPROVEMENT OF HEALTH CONDITIONS.

B. PL-480 - CURRENT OBJECTIVES: TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY RELIEF FROM CONTINUING EFFECTS OF SAHELIAN DRLHT.

C. BILATERAL AID PROGRAM--CURRENT OBJECTIVES

1. PROVIDE EMERGENCY FOOD.
2. ASSISTANCE TO IMPROVE TECHNIQUES IN DRY LAND AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION.
3. HEALTH AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
4. STRENGTHEN PLANNING CAPACITY AND TRAINING OF NIGER'S MANAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL CADRES.JAMES

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